

MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE TEAM

2006 DOWNTOWN COMPETITION

FACADE IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE NOTICE OF INTENT

Brief Overview:

This program is designed to assist a community in making physical improvements to an entire traditional downtown area, block, or portion of a block that contains buildings, properties, and businesses in need of facade improvements. The project should be located within a traditional downtown and within a Downtown Development Authority (DDA), Principal Shopping District (PSD), or Business Improvement Zone (BIZ).

There are two ways to qualify for funding. First, a project can be qualified based on job creation (51% of the new jobs must be held by low/moderate income persons). Secondly, a project can be qualified based on area-wide benefit if the community's population is less than 15,000 and it is on the CDBG low/moderate income community list. If a community is not on the list and is not an ineligible entitlement area, you may be able to qualify your project based on job creation, census tracts/block groups, or by completion and approval of a survey prior to submission of a Notice of Intent. If there are survey questions, please contact Tonya Young at 517.335.4337.

Funding priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate a fast track plan to complete the infrastructure improvements and create the jobs, as soon as possible, but not later than December 31, 2007.

The CDBG funding request minimum is \$25,000 and the maximum is \$200,000. A committed local match of 50% is required.

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO PROJECT COSTS (BOTH CDBG OR NON-CDBG) CAN BE INCURRED PRIOR TO COMPLETION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS EXCEPT PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING ESTIMATES. As part of the environmental review, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) clearances are required.

In addition, a five year prorated resale provision will be required to ensure that, if the property is sold within five years of project closeout, any program income will be returned to the CDBG program due to federal regulations.

**Please read the cover letter and attached
instructions for additional program details.**

